

Dear Senator Booher,

I am the Director of the Animal Rescue Coalition, which is the county shelter in Mecosta County. I write in support of SB 560. This bill would provide more humane treatment of dogs and cats.

We have received dogs in terrible condition that had been raised by breeders who were unregulated and did not care for the animals and then abandoned them when they could not sell them. Our shelter had to spend hundreds of dollars in veterinarian bills to try to save these dogs. If this bill were passed, the breeders would at least give the minimum care to keep the dogs healthy.

It is common knowledge that dogs or cats that are removed from their mothers before the age of 8 weeks old will have behavioral issues later in life. This bill would prohibit this practice, leading to healthier and more well adjusted pets. This will help our shelter as we try to find homes for every dog and cat that comes to us.

The passage of this bill will benefit not only pet's lives and the people who adopt them, but also shelters in Michigan that are overcrowded with dogs and cats.

Sincerely,

Cate Arroe, Director
Animal Rescue Coalition of Mecosta County